

Tawara's Opera, Revisited

(IV)

Philipps-University Marburg: Past and Present

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I-3. Philipps-University Marburg: Past and Present

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Marburg is a small city at the middle west of Germany, 65 km north of Frankfurt. Philipps - University Marburg (Philipps University) is founded by the regional count of Hessen, Philipp (Fig. 1), in 1527 as the first protestant university in Germany. On the one hand, he was a suppressor of the german peasant riot (Bauernkrieg, 1524-25). Therefore, there are many old buildings of the university at the center of the city (Fig. 2), including the university church, faculties of religion, law, literature, and medicine. These buildings are used up to now over 100 or 700 years. The painting (color, Fig. 3) showing the religious conference held by Philipp, the lord of a castle (Schloß), in 1529, is decked in the big lecture hall (Alten Aula) of the old university (Alte Universität, Fig. 4).

When I was studying at the university in 2003, the 125 anniversary of the Japan-Zentrum was carried out in this hall. More than 2000 foreign students from all over the world are studying in the university. Many persons of world-wide fame such as brothers Grimm, the first winner of Nobel Prize for Medicine, Emil von Behring, a winner of Nobel Prize for chemistry, Otto Hahn (a discoverer of nuclear fission of uranium (U238) by collision of a neutron, 1936), a winner of Nobel Prize for physics, Ferdinand Braun, Dr. Tawara and a winner of Nobel Prize for literature, Boris Pasternak and so on, were studying at the Marburg University. I historically introduced the university in the 7th Tawara-Aschoff symposium.

The old botanical garden (Alter Botanischen Garten) is situated in the triangle area of downtown surrounded by Deutsch Haus, Pilgrim stein and Biegen streets (Fig. 2). The garden is also a plaza for rest and recreation for the citizens. The old clinics of the university, the institutes of medicine and the general culture course are present in this area. The river Lahn (Fig. 5) is across the city. The old university and the small suspension bridge (Luisa-Hauser Brücke) can be seen in this figure. The mensa (a refectory of Seikyo like in Japanese) is present in left side of the bridge. The heavily-built building (Fig. 6) is the old institute of Anatomy 2 years after constructed in 1838. This building is now used as the faculty of Pharmacy fronting on the street of Ketzerbach, leading to the street of Emil-von-Behring. The two pinnacles of the Gothic church are seen in the right side. Figure 7 is the front view of the present Institute of Anatomy and Cell Biology which was built (1902) just before Dr. Tawara began to study in Marburg (1903-06).

Besides, there are modern buildings of the university clinics, faculties of science, Max-Planck-Institute, and the new vast botanical garden gathered plants from the world wide areas in the hilly regions of Lahnberge. I regret the recent close of the Japan-Zentrum in the Philipps University which was studying Japanese culture (religion, language, law, history etc.), promoting interchange the cultural exchange between Japan and Germany. However, I expect that the Twara-Aschoff symposium could continue to promote the academic friendships between Japanese and German.

References

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マールブルク大学の過去と現在



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Alte Universität (現在も講義、研究室として使われている。一部、教会となっている)



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

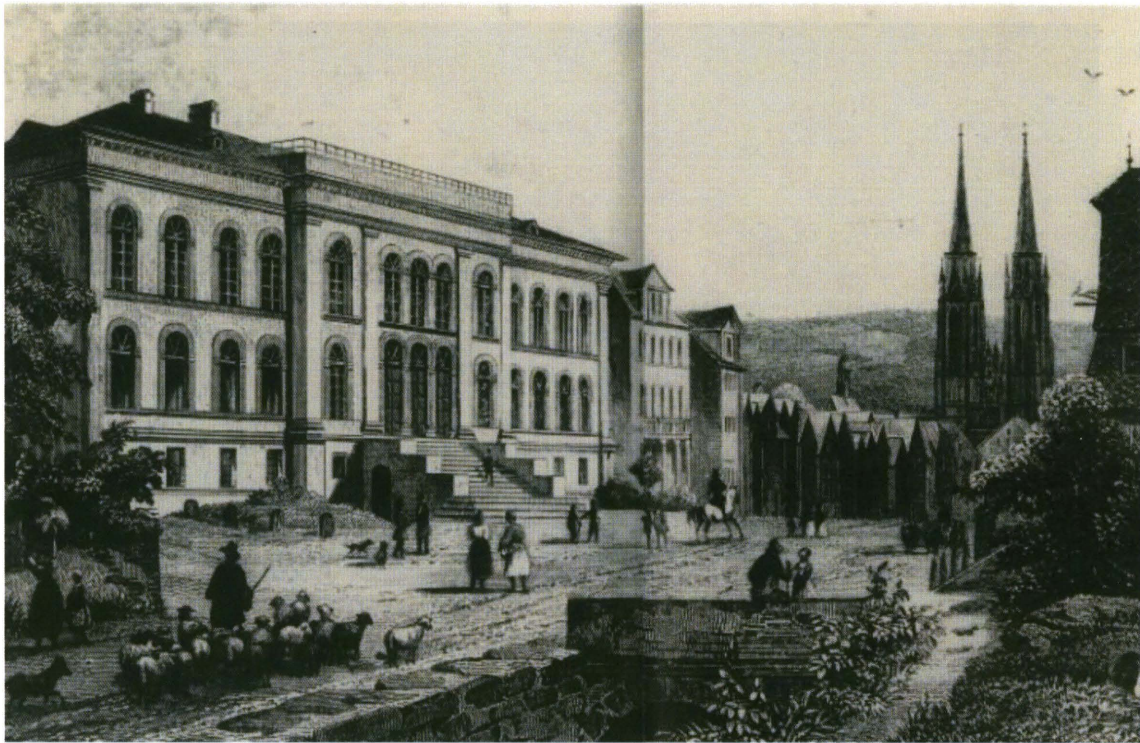


Fig. 6



Fig. 7